(b) During the course of enquiry, some documents were collected by CBI.

(c) No person was either interrogated or arrested. It was an enquiry and eleven persons were examined.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Some documents were collected by CBI from the State Government.

(f) and (g) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Steps to deal with naxalism

58. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as part of its multi-pronged strategy to deal with terrorism, the Centre has decided to strengthening police forces by raising new battalions, filling existing vacancies and providing modern weapons to them;

(b) if so, whether Government have set up a Group of Ministers to suggest and look into the socio-economic causes of rise of naxalism in tribal forest areas;

(c) if so, what are the other suggestions made by this Group; and

(d) to what extent Government have been able to tackle the problem of naxalism both socio-economically and also through raising the strength of the forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Central Government has been providing assistance for strengthening the State Police forces including raising of IR Bns in naxal affected areas as a part of the multi-pronged strategy adopted to deal with the menace of naxalism. Besides, guidelines were issued in January, 2005 for making 40% recruitment in the Central Police Forces from the militancy/naxalism affected and border areas.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, the Government has recently constituted and Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) to closely monitor the naxal

situation and review the special measures that need to be taken on the political, security and socio-economic fronts to deal with the naxalite menace.

(d) In the year 2006 till October 31, there have been 1272 incidents of naxal violence as against 1361 incidents in the corresponding period of last year, indicating a decline of 6.54%. Resultant casualties were 610 as against 581 casualties in the same period last year, indicating an increase of 4.99%.

The Government has been pursuing a multi-pronged approach to address the naxal problem on political, security and development fronts in a coordinated manner. The Central Government has taken specific measures to coordinate and supplement the efforts and resources of the naxal affected States on both security and development fronts to meet the challenge posed by the naxal problem.

Maoists involvement in violence

59. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether maoist menace is threatening to engulf the entire nation having succeeded in 13 Indian States, are now eyeing J and K;

(b) if so, whether despite some reverses, such as attacks by militants and unintentional killings of civilians at the hands of its personnel, the CRPF is making some innovative plans to get closure to the people and isolate militants;

(c) if so, whether militants and jehadis are increasing their activities in J and K; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government have taken steps to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The naxal violence was reported from 509 police stations in different States in 2005. The level of naxal violence remains high in certain parts of the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Orissa. There are